

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL 501 635 499 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Boutiller

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

Filed: Concurrently filed

Examiner: to be assigned

For: PROCESS FOR THE
PREPARATION OF
THERMOPLASTIC MATERIALS

Attorney Docket No.: 2988-661

New York, NY
December 1, 2000

(N.E.)
A/#10
1/30/01

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments (changes are shown in bold-face for convenience for references) and remarks into the file of the present application. Applicant attached a clean form of amended claims as Appendix A.

IN CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 34 as follows:

1. (amended) Process for **[the preparation of]** preparing a composition **[comprising]** of a vinylaromatic polymer matrix surrounding rubber nodules, comprising **[a]** the step of polymerizing at least one vinylaromatic monomer in the presence of a rubber, [of] a stable free radical which is not introduced into the polymerization mixture in a form linked to the rubber, and [of] a polymerization initiator with a grafting character suitable for **[the]** said composition,
[- is such that in one of its sections at least 90% of the total area occupied by the nodules corresponds to capsules having an equivalent diameter ranging from 0.1 to 1 μ m, or else
- is such that it comprises multi-occlusion-type nodules and is such that in one of its sections

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